

A CLEAN COPY OF THE CLAIMS AS AMENDED

Claim 6. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to claim 21, further comprising sutures provided in the fastener portion, wherein the fastener portion includes the sutures for attachment to adjacent parts of the instrumentation or to adjacent bone areas or tissues.

Claim 7. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to claim 21, wherein the fastener portion includes a lower frame of the cap or casing provided with an open, box-like aperture for the placement over the instrumentation.

Claim 8. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to claim 21, wherein the cap or casing is a pliable or flexible pouch.

Claim 9. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to claim 8, wherein the fastener portion of said pliable or flexible pouch comprises one or more drawstrings for cinching the lower edge of the pouch opening around the projecting parts of the instrumentation mounted into or fastened to the bone.

Claim 10. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to claim 21, wherein the cap or casing is a pliable or flexible sheath.

Claim 11. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to claim 10, wherein the fastener portion comprises a lower cinch ring provided with openings therein and a number of suture strings for threading through said cinch ring for tightening the cap vertically down to the cinch ring over the instrumentation.

Claim 12. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to claim 11, wherein the lower cinch ring is a tubular form having one or more drawstrings therein for tightening the cover or shield circumferentially (horizontally) around the instrumentation.

Claim 21. A bone instrumentation cover or shield capable of being permanently installed in bone during bone repair or reconstruction surgical procedure comprising:

a hollow cap or casing pouch adapted for permanent installation or for removal in a subsequent surgical procedure and which is dimensioned to be placed over and to encapsulate the projecting parts of the instrumentation which has been installed in the bone, and

a fastener portion provided at a lower edge of the cap or casing pouch for securing said cap or casing to adjacent bone areas or tissue or to parts of the instrumentation where the instrumentation has been installed in the bone, wherein said hollow cap or casing pouch provides a mechanical barrier for preventing ingrowth of bone or fibrous tissue into the interstices of the instrumentation.

Claim 22. A bone instrumentation cover or shield according to claim 21 wherein said hollow cap or casing pouch comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of GoreTex, Dacron and polyurethane.